

REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are submitted in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed April 21, 2004. Having addressed all objections and grounds of rejection, originally presented claims 1-20, along with newly presented claims 21-25, being all the pending claims, are now deemed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration to that end is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)¹ as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0123993 A1, in the name of Chau et al (hereinafter referred to as "Chau"). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed as to amended claims 1-20 for the following reasons.

Chau is dedicated to showing how to search data stored as XML documents within a relational data base. This involves retrieving data from the relational data base and packing it into the XML message. The title of Chau reads:

XML Document Processing

Similarly, the Abstract of Chau begins:

A technique is provided for creating metadata for fast search of XML documents stored as column data.

¹It is assumed that the Examiner meant his rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), because the reference has a publication date later than the Applicant's filing date.

In other words, Chau is limited to searching data as XML documents stored in the relational data base and transferring data from the relational data base as an XML message. The process of creating the XML document data base and searching the XML documents is shown by Chau Figs. 4-7 9-11. The process of XML document data base management is the thrust of Chau.

Applicants' invention, on the other hand, establishes an interface to a legacy data base management system (as distinguished from data base) from XML messages. Applicants describe the Field of the Invention (see specification at page 1, lines 8-11) as:

The present invention generally relates to data base management systems and more particularly relates to enhancements for providing an interface between a legacy data base management system and Internet servers employing XML (extensible markup language) protocol

The transfer between a user and a data base management system involves the request of a "service". This service request may include appended input parameters but is primarily a request of the data base management system to execute one or more functions. This should be readily apparent from the examples given in the specification and drawings. The specification provides extensive discussions of Cool ICE services including computations, boolean operations, etc.

Thus, Chau creates and searches XML document data base entries whereas Applicants convert XML messages service requests

into data base management command language script. Chau can only utilize the contents of XML documents as data. Applicants utilize XML messages to transfer executable command script.

Because the Examiner has apparently not found this distinction (i.e., Chau's conversion of XML data transfer from Applicants' conversion of XML service requests) within Applicants' claims as presented, Applicants have herein amended all pending claims to make this distinction much more explicit.

Newly presented claims 21-25, though of differing scope, are deemed similarly limited.

Having thus responded to each objection and ground of rejection, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-25, being the only pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas N. Turba

By his attorney,



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Wayne A. Sivertson
Reg. No. 25,645
Suite 401
Broadway Place East
3433 Broadway Street N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
55413
(612) 331-1464